

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 198

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Head Coach Jim Morgan and the Baylor School wrestling team upon winning the 2006-2007 TSSAA Division II State Championship titles in both duals and traditional wrestling.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful sports teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable sports team is the Baylor School wrestling team, which achieved an extraordinary level of success in the 2006-2007 season by winning both the Duals and the Traditional Tournaments in the TSSAA Division II State Wrestling Championship; and

WHEREAS, one of the most demanding sports, wrestling is also one of the oldest sporting competitions, tracing its roots to the ancient Greeks and the earliest Olympic games; and

WHEREAS, led by Head Coach Jim Morgan, the Baylor Red Raiders won their fourth consecutive traditional championship, their seventh in the last nine years, and their fourth state duals title, the fourth in seven years, to increase their total for traditional state titles to ten: 1978, 1979, 1981, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Baylor School Red Raiders wrestling team compiled an impressive season record of twenty-five wins and three losses in dual meets this season, defeating Memphis University School, 66-9, in the quarterfinals, Montgomery Bell Academy, 48-15, in the semi-finals, and rival Father Ryan, 38-21, to claim the 2006-2007 state duals wrestling title; and

WHEREAS, Baylor collected five individual championships and four runner-up finishes to achieve their victory in the traditional championship as Red Raiders Bailey Whitaker and Ben Johnson became Baylor's fourth and fifth three-time individual state champs, Reed Doster and

Daniel Waddell each won their second state championships, and senior Mike Bell claimed his first state title; and

WHEREAS, a team with uncommon dedication and motivation, the Baylor School Red Raiders wrestling team includes: Bailey Whitaker, Ben Johnson, Reed Doster, Daniel Waddell, Mike Bell, Alex Manley, Colton Popp, Fritz Doster, McLain Still, Troy Downey, Wes Stroud, Trey Stavrum, and Andy Shuford; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Jim Morgan, Assistants Schaack Van Deusen and James Russell laid the groundwork for this year's championship season by sharing with these young men their substantial knowledge of wrestling, their many years of coaching and athletic experience, and their passion both for the sport of wrestling and for excellence in every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the wrestlers of the Baylor School epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the wrestling mat; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship wrestling season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future enterprise; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Baylor School wrestling team for winning the 2006-2007 TSSAA Division II State Championship titles in both duals and traditional wrestling and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the coaches and members of the Baylor School wrestling team upon winning the 2006-2007 TSSAA Division II State Championship titles in both duals and traditional wrestling, commend them upon a successful wrestling season, and wish them every success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

